THE VINDICATION

OF

Richard Chedle Eſquire, Deceaſed.

BEING

A plaine and full Anſwer to the falſe and ſcandalous pamphlet, bearing date the thirtyeth of *December* laſt.

HUMBLY

Offered to publique View, by a cordiall Lover of Truth and hater of Lyes.

Printed at London 1651.

THE VINDICATION OF BEING

The Vindication of *Richard Chedle* Esq; Deceased.

IT hath been a rule amongst meer Moralists, *de mortuis & absentibus nihil mali loqui*, it well becomes a Christian to exceed Moralists in rules of charity, and how far it argues not only an unchristian-like, but of a sordid, cowardly, and unworthy spirit, to speake evill of those that are absent, much more of the dead, I leave to any judicious spirit to judge. I had thought there had been so much printed to publick view touching the tryall of *Richard Chedle*, that had sufficiently satisfied the world that he had received *summum jus*, the very rigor of the law, but as was his prosecution with all violence and malice, so the implacable spirits of his adversaries full fraught and tempered with that poysonous leven, contrive to endeavour to destroy even his good name, that as his body rots in the earth, so his name might grow odious to posterity, and to this end, they lately foisted into the Diurnal 30 *December* last, a false and scandalous paper which they say came in an expresse from *Chester*, the words are these,

This particular Expresse from *Chester* desired to be incerted, came thus: His Excellency the Lord General being informed there were some menacing words delivered by some of the Souldiery of *Cheshire* and *Conway*, as wel touching the Judges as all others that did prosecute the cause against *Rich. Chedle*, for murthering *Rich. Buckley*, did out of his love to justice, and impartiality to both partyes, write his Letter to Col. *Carter* to command all Souldiers under his command not to give any disturbance to the Judges, or any else in the Court of Justice, in that businesse: And hee was ordered to communicate the said Letter to the Governour of *Chester*, and the souldiers under his command. Nevertheless they did not forbeare to

uſe all undue meanes for the ſtopping the courſe of Juſtice, by labouring with ſeveral Members of Parliament, endeavouring by falſe informations if it were poſſible to pervert them; and at the day of the execution of the ſaid *Chedle* the Souldiers with their naked ſwords kept off the people from comming to hear his confeſſion, which were theſe words following, as the Sheriffe did teſtifie it under his own hand, *viz. That the Sentence that was pronounced was moſt juſt and right, and that* Richard Buckley *was the fift man he had ſlain in cold blood*, and further confeſſed, *that he had committed divers other great and high crimes for which he ſeemed much afflicted in conſcience.* Let no honeſt Souldier of this Army take any exception at what I have here ſet downe, for the ſaid *Richard Chedle*, though he was thus countenanced by ſome Souldiers, was never either Officer, or Souldier in the Parliaments pay, but ſerved in the Enemyes Army while there was any hope or likelihood of that party to prevaile.

It conſiſteth of ſeverall branches, I ſhall therefore take it in peeces and give you to underſtand how one lye lyeth by another, Firſt They ſay it was an expreſſe from *Cheſter*, I wonder who ſhould ſend that expreſſe, for I am ſure no lover of the Parliaments cauſe would ſend any ſuch newes, for I am certaine the honourable Governour Col. *Duckenfield*, and all his Officers was much ſaded and diſcontented at the proceedings againſt him, and ſo was all the well affected there; But I have partly found it out, there are two, their names are *Harvies* that ſwore ſo largely againſt him to take away his life, fellowes of notorious infamy, Felons, burners of houſes, *&c.* as at large was certified, to the Parliament under the Seal of *Cheſter*, and under the hands of ſeveral other Juſtices of the peace and Gentlemen of quality in thoſe parts, and if theſe may be beleeved, there may be ſome truth in it, but what was certified of the ſaid *Harvies* was, that they were men of no credit among their neighbours, and therefore ought to be held the ſame abroad.

In the next place they tell you, there were ſome menacing words ſpoken by the Souldiers, againſt the Judges and all o- that proſecuted againſt *Chedle*: How falſe it is, I will not onely

only refer to the relation of ſpectators then preſent, but alſo to the known behaviour of the Souldiers in generall, who have ſo much declared againſt, and practiſed the contrary to ſuch miſdemeanors, and if any were guilty, why were not the perſons detected, againſt whom there needed no doubt of Juſtice in a moſt exemplary way. But to mend the matter, and put ſome faire gloſſe on it, they tel you by the Pamphleteer, of a Letter ſent by his Excellency the Lord Gen. *Cromwel* to Col. *Carter*, commanding all Souldiers under his command to forbear giving any diſturbance to the Judges, or any other in the Court of Juſtice, &c. It is true ſuch a Letter was obtained from his Excellency by means of ſome of M. *Chedle* his adverſaryes, who ſurpriſed the Gen. by falſe repreſentations of the nature of fact, and Mr. *Owen* his Chaplaine, Mr. *Can*, Mr. *Dury*, Mr. *Maſterſon*, Mr. *Knight*, and ſeverall other godly Miniſters did afterward joyne in petitioning the Houſe for the buſineſſe to be heard before a Committee of Parliament.

The Pamphleteer then proceeds to tell you, that ſome did labour by falſe accuſations to pervert the Parliament, truly the Authour that helped him to this lye, ſhould have done wel to have given the lye to any information that was given to the Houſe by any of M. *Chedles* friends in time of their ſolicitation for him, for as much as nothing was abſconded from, or whiſpered into the ears of any, but it was in Print preſented to publicke view.

And for the remaining part of the ſtory, the ſeverall falſities and ſcandals wil be made appeare by the following papers, the one being his Confeſſion under his owne hand a little before his death, atteſted by ſeverall witneſſes who ſaw him ſubſcribe it, the other a Proteſtation of thoſe that were preſent at his execution, againſt the ſaid falſe and ſcandalous Paper of his adverſaries, who endeavour to caſt dirt on the memory of the deceaſed.

Deare Brother:

UPon your requeſt I have here thought good to certifie you, and all the World with the very truth of the paſſages that hapned betwixt me and Col. *Richard Bulkley* on the Sands, as we came from *Anglicæ* to *Carnarvanſhire*, where this unfortunate diſaſter hapned, and this to the beſt of my memory upon the words of a dying man, I doe moſt clearly and truly declare:

I comming laſt into the Ferry-boat but one, and went next but one man out, taking my Wife behind me on a Naggs back not worth five pounds, and Riding in my way homewards on the Sands about halfe a mile, where Col. *Bulkley* rid up to me, doſe on my left hand, mounted on a Mare which was conceived to be worth very neare twenty pounds; the firſt ſalutation was, he aſked my Wife how ſhe did, preſently after he queſtioned me about ſome words that I ſhould ſpeake of him to Lieutenant *William*, Lieut. of *Denbigh* Caſtle, tending to his diſhonour; my reply to him was, I thought that he had been fully ſatisfied about that before he went beyond Sea, a twelve-moneth ſince, for then he ſent me a Challenge to this Towne, underneath which Challenge I ſent him under my hand, that I had not ſpoken thoſe words to Lieut. *Williams*, which I conceived to be ſufficient ſatisfaction for any Gentleman, but it ſeemed that his malice was not appeaſed, but told me, that I ſhould give him ſatisfaction juſt then, I not being in a condition to fight with him and his Man, having a Woman behind me, deſired him to forbeare then, and I would goe with him when he pleaſed to Lieut. *Williams*, where I would give him all the ſatisfaction that might be; but he not being ſatisfied with my anſwer, called me Traytorous Villaine, or words to that effect, and told me, I ſhould give him ſatisfaction there, and upon the ſame daſhed me over the face, and wounded me, and drew my bloud with ſome little thing he had in his hand, which I and my Wife conceived to be a Pocket Inkehome; upon the which blow I clapped my hand on my Sword, and would have drawne then, but that my Wife held both my armes, in the meane while he wheeled about his Mare a pretty diſtance from me to draw his Rapier, by that time I had gotten my Wife from behind me, and my Rapier out, and then paſſed one at another, it was my fortune to put up his point, which run me into the brim

brim and crowne of my Hat, and my point hapned to goe into his breaſt; his man not being farre off came up unto his Maſter with his Sword drawne, and asked him how he did, but what he replyed unto his man I know not; then I perceiving that he and his man came both towards me, I drew out my Piſtoll, it not being charged, and preſented it towards them, which cauſed them to keep a pretty diſtance from me, untill *Bulkley* fell off his Mare, which the man perceiving went to help his Maſter; in the interim, I got my Hat and Cloake on me, which were on the Sands, and called to my Wife to get up behind me, which ſhe refuſing ſo to doe, I rid my way towards *Conway*, but not thinking my ſelfe in ſafety in theſe Countries by reaſon of their diſ-affection to the Parliament, and their Alliance to Colonell *Bulkley*, I rid to *Namptwich*, where I was apprehended, and afterwards was brought to this Towne, where I was condemned to dye for this Fact, not having the leaſt thought of any malice then towards him, or any intention to fight with him, and for the Evidence of the two *Harvies* of *Cheſter*, and the words witneſſed by them, which was, that I had a former reſolution to kill Col. *Bulkley*. I call God to witneſſe, before whom I truſt in the merits of my Saviour very ſhortly I ſhall appeare, I never ſpoke the words, and ſo being reconciled to Jeſus Chriſt my Redeemer, I bid you heartily farewell, deſiring God to bleſſe you, and all yours; ſo deare brother farewell for ever.

Rich. Chedle.

Signed by Rich. Chedle *Eſq*; *in the preſence of us at Conway Caſtle the* 13. *of Sept.* 1650.

Will. Okes, John Sydenham, Will. Williams, Jo. Davis.

WHereas by occaſion of a Triall of the Cauſe of death of Col. *Richard Bulkley*, by Major *Richard Chedle*, the Officers and Souldiers of the Garriſons of *Conway* in *Carnarvanſhire*, and the City of *Cheſter*, who by all meanes endeavoured truth, and to informe themſelves in the whole Premiſes, did ſo much as concerned the Publique and their friends, give their diligence both in the Triall judiciall, and Execution finall, to obſerve what lay againſt the ſaid Major *Richard Chedle*, and not denying juſt Judgement (yet finding by publique Pamphlets, ſecret contrivances, and that Execution being had will not ſatisfie, but alſo ignominy to the deceaſed and his friends, as lately appeares by cer-

certaine words incerted in a Diurnall, bearing date, [illegible] 1650. viz.) That at the time of his ſufferings, the Officers Souldiers of *Conway* did with their drawne Swords keep people from comming to heare his Confeſſion, which the phletier ſets downe in theſe words, viz. That the Sentence nounced againſt him was moſt juſt, and that *Richard* the fifth man he had ſlaine in cold bloud. We who doe atteſt theſe words not only ſcandalous, but abſolu except the Sentence, the words which he delivered being ſhort (to wit) That he had no malice at all to Col. what were the particular paſſages, he had for the all men put under his hand, and delivered to his brother ry, whom he deſired to ſatisfie all that ſhould enquire cerning that particular; this being the whole truth, we thought good to certifie under our hands:

Thomas Salisbury	*Thomas Tompſon*
William Oakes	*Thomas Williams*
John Arrundell	*William Ledbeter*
Arthur Spencer	*Leonard Moncaſter.*

And for the laſt part of their falſe ſtory, wherein [illegible] your to inſinuate into the Souldiery to procure their [illegible] by telling them that he was never either Officer or [illegible] Parliaments pay.

The truth is, he was ſo much a Gentleman, and a [illegible] his Country, that he thought nothing too deare to [illegible] the Parliaments Cauſe, and that without any mercinary [illegible] all, and the good ſervice by him done in taking the Ca[illegible] *Conway*, and *Anglicæ*, was acknowledged by Act of [illegible] Parliament acceptable, and the Parliament honourably [illegible] him a large gratuity, as by the ſame Act is expreſſed. [illegible] as they ſay, he ſerved in the enemies Army whilſt [illegible] hope or likelihood of that Party prevailing, it [illegible] knowne that he never acted for the enemy, or ſtay[illegible] quarters longer then neceſſity compeld him, and that [illegible] betwixt him and *Bulkley* did ariſe from no other ground [illegible] *Chedle* had been ſo active for the Parliament a[illegible] *Bulkley*, who had been occaſion of ſhedding more [illegible] then ever his Family will be able to ſatisfie for, and [illegible] truth of the ſtory, I thought good to publiſh to the [illegible] as might wipe off that odium which is endeavoured [illegible] his name and memory.

FINIS.

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REPORTS
PAST THE
COMMITTEE
At
Goldſmiths-hall,

Vpon the ſeverall dayes hereafter mentioned, (*viz.*)

October 1, 9, 11, &c. 1649.

LONDON
Printed by *Richard Cotes*.
1649.

certaine words incerted in a Diurnall, bearing date, *December* 30. 1650. viz.) That at the time of his ſufferings, the Officers and Souldiers of *Conway* did with their drawne Swords keep off the people from comming to heare his Confeſſion, which the Pamphletier ſets downe in theſe words, viz. That the Sentence pronounced againſt him was moſt juſt, and that *Richard Bulkley* was the fifth man he had ſlaine in cold bloud. We who were preſent doe atteſt theſe words not only ſcandalous, but abſolutely falſe, except the Sentence, the words which he delivered being but very ſhort (to wit) That he had no malice at all to Col. *Bulkley*; but what were the particular paſſages, he had for the ſatisfaction of all men put under his hand, and delivered to his brother *Salisbury*, whom he deſired to ſatisfie all that ſhould enquire further concerning that particular; this being the whole truth, upon requeſt we thought good to certifie under our hands:

Thomas Salisbury	*Thomas Tompſon*
William Oakes	*Thomas Williams*
Iohn Arrundell	*William Ledbeter*
Arthur Spencer	*Leonard Moncaſter.*

And for the laſt part of their falſe ſtory, wherein they endeavour to inſinuate into the Souldiery to procure their good opinion, by telling them that he was never either Officer or Souldier in the Parliaments pay.

The truth is, he was ſo much a Gentleman, and a true lover of his Country, that he thought nothing too deare to adventure for the Parliaments Cauſe, and that without any mercinary reſpects at all, and the good ſervice by him done in taking the Garriſon of *Conway*, and *Anglicæ*, was acknowledged by Act of this preſent Parliament acceptable, and the Parliament honourably awarded him a large gratuity, as by the ſame Act is expreſſed. And whereas they ſay, he ſerved in the enemies Army whilſt there was any hope or likelihood of that Party prevailing, it is ſufficiently knowne that he never acted for the enemy, or ſtayed in their quarters longer then neceſſity compeld him, and that the quarrell betwixt him and *Bulkley* did ariſe from no other ground then that *Chedle* had been ſo active for the Parliament againſt the ſaid *Bulkley*, who had been occaſion of ſhedding more Chriſtian bloud then ever his Family will be able to ſatisfie for; and this being the truth of the ſtory, I thought good to publiſh to the world ſo much as might wipe off that odium which is indeavoured to be laid on his name and memory. FINIS.